

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method of using a dynamic computing environment ("DCE") for a
2 plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, the method comprising:
3 configuring the dynamic computing environment for a first phase in the
4 plurality of phases;
5 using the configured dynamic computing environment in the first phase;
6 configuring the dynamic computing environment for a second phase in the
7 plurality of phases; and
8 using the configured dynamic computing environment in the second phase.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a
2 development phase.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein using the configured dynamic
2 computing environment comprises:
3 using the configured DCE for a first task; and
4 using the configured DCE simultaneously with the first task for a second task.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise an
2 integration phase.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein using the configured dynamic
2 computing environment comprises using the DCE for integrating the software.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a
2 testing phase.
- 1 7. The method of claim 6, wherein further comprising re-configuring a
2 clean environment in the DCE during the testing phase.
- 1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a beta
2 testing phase.
- 1 9. The method of claim 8, wherein configuring the dynamic computing
2 environment comprises installing software on the DCE,
3 wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises beta
4 testing the software using the DCE.

- 1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a
2 staging phase.
- 1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein configuring the dynamic computing
2 environment comprises installing a new version of the software,
3 wherein using the configured dynamic computing environment comprises
4 enabling access for at least one user to the new version of the software.
- 1 12. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of phases comprise a
2 deployment phase.
- 1 13. The method of claim 12, wherein using the configured dynamic
2 computing environment comprises:
3 testing the software; and
4 updating the software if updates are required.
- 1 14. The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises a
2 shrink-wrap lifecycle.
- 1 15. The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises a web
2 site lifecycle.
- 1 16. The method of claim 1, wherein the software lifecycle comprises an
2 ASP lifecycle.
- 1 17. A method of using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for a
2 plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, wherein each phase in the plurality of phases in the
3 software lifecycle include computing resource requirements, the method comprising:
4 (a) sending a command to the DCE to allocate computing resource
5 requirements for a phase in the plurality of phases;
6 (b) configuring the DCE with the computing resource requirements for the
7 phase;
8 (c) performing the phase using the configured DCE; and
9 (d) repeating steps (a) – (c) for the plurality of phases in the software
10 lifecycle.

1 18. The method of claim 17, wherein the plurality of phases comprise at
2 least one of a development stage, integration stage, testing stage, beta testing stage, beta
3 deployment stage, and deployment stage.

1 19. The method of claim 17, wherein the software lifecycle comprises at
2 least one of a web site lifecycle, an application service provider lifecycle, and a shrink-wrap
3 lifecycle.

1 20. An apparatus for performing for a plurality of phases in a software
2 lifecycle, the method comprising:
3 a dynamic computing environment
4 instructions for configuring the dynamic computing environment for a first
5 phase in the plurality of phases;
6 instructions for using the configured dynamic computing environment in the
7 first phase;
8 instructions for configuring the dynamic computing environment for a second
9 phase in the plurality of phases; and
10 instructions for using the configured dynamic computing environment in the
11 second phase.

1 21. An apparatus for using a dynamic computing environment (“DCE”) for
2 a plurality of phases in a software lifecycle, wherein each phase in the plurality of phases in
3 the software lifecycle include computing resource requirements, the apparatus comprising:
4 (a) instructions for sending a command to the DCE to allocate computing
5 resource requirements for a phase in the plurality of phases;
6 (b) instructions for configuring the DCE with the computing resource
7 requirements for the phase;
8 (c) instructions for performing the phase using the configured DCE; and
9 (d) instructions for repeating steps (a) – (c) for the plurality of phases in the
10 software lifecycle.